

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 14, 2014



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Rejoice always. Pray
without
ceasing.

I Thessalonians 5:16

MASS INTENTIONS

MON., 7:00	Dec. 15th A.M.	Advent Weekday Gregory Consentino r/o Susan Consentino, Daughter
TUES., 12:00	Dec. 16th P.M.	Advent Weekday Frances Messina r/o Rita & Bob Korlesky
WED., 7:00	Dec. 17th A.M.	Advent Weekday Parishioners
THURS., 12:00	Dec. 18th P.M.	Advent Weekday Mary R. Greiner r/o OLMV Altar Rosary Society
FRI., 7:00	Dec. 19th A.M.	Our Lady of Guadalupe Eleanor G. Procacci r/o OLMV Altar Rosary Society
SAT., 8:00	Dec. 20th A.M.	Advent Weekday Colleen Murray r/o Mom, Lottie & Family
5:00	P.M.	Shirley Sherwood r/o Gina Roof
SUN., 8:00	Dec. 21st A.M.	Fourth Sunday in Advent Joseph Butera r/o Children
10:00	A.M.	Richie Zakashefski r/o Parents
11:30	A.M.	Jim Efinger r/o Maryra Efinger
1:30	P.M.	Jose Velez

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no confessions on Saturday, December 20 or Saturday, December 27, 2014

PLAN AHEAD... The parish Office will be closed Wednesday, December 24th and Thursday, December 25th.

Week of December 14—21

Altar Candles

Mary (Malt) Greiner r/o Mrs. Annete
Ruggiero—Foose

Altar Flowers

Joseph Hoski r/o Bob & Rosalie Kasperik

PRAY FOR THE SICK... In your charity please pray for the sick of our parish, the sick who remain in our intentions and those whose names are kept on our prayer list in the sacristy. Prayers are requested for the recent deceased: Margaret Sebastian and John McKinney, Sr.



TODAY'S READING'S:

First Reading — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will God make justice up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11).

Psalms — My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

Second Reading — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

Gospel — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28).

Thank-you to all those who supported the OLMV Coat Drive. Thanks to your generosity, we collected 221 usable winter coats and 49 assorted winter items. Thank-you also to the young parishioners and CCD students for volunteering to sort and count the coats. May the warmth of God's love surround you during this Advent season and always.
~Adrienne Sviderskis-Carroll.



WEDDING BANNERS

I Tara Anello & Michael Polifonte

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 20—21

5:00 pm—	Haley Logue Madison Logue Hunter Logue
8:00 am—	Richie McNulty Tommy McNulty
10:00 am—	James Lawrence Katie Schilp Mary Schilp
11:30 am—	Natalie Zychlinski Mikaehla Pineda Rhiana Pineda



Our Weekly Offering

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16 - 18.

Nov. 30.....	\$8,974.00
Hispanic Mass	\$375.00
Major Renovations.....	\$791.00
Debt Reduction.....	\$102.00
Additional for Campaign for Human Development.....	\$116.00
ACH Banking Nov. 15.....	\$2,012.50
Dec. 6—7.....	\$10,938.00
Hispanic Mass.....	\$483.00
Major Renovations.....	\$2,043.00
Weekly Parish Expenses.....	\$19,246.00



Wednesday, December 24th -Vigil

4:00 P.M. (a Special Liturgy with our parish children.)

7:00 P.M.

12:00 Midnight Mass

(Lessons and Carols at 3:30, 6:30 and 11:30 P.M.)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday, December 25th

8:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.

Due to the large crowds who attend Mass on Christmas, the last Mass will be celebrated at **12:00 noon instead of 11:30 A.M.** Please note this change.

Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday, December 31st -

7:00 P.M. Vigil

Friday, January 1st

9:00 A.M. 12:00 noon

(NO CONFESSIONS: DECEMBER 20 & 27)

The Parish Office will close at **1:00 P.M. on Wednesday, December 17, 2014** as we will be Celebrating our Staff Christmas Luncheon. Parish Office will reopen on Thursday, December 18 at 8:30 A.M.

Eucharistic Adoration this **Friday, December 19th** following the 7:00 A.M. Mass up until the 12:00 noon.

During these hectic days of the holiday rush why not plan to spend some quiet time with Jesus?

THE KNIGHTS established the **"Father Blaise Baran Scholarship Fund"** to honor outstanding young adults from our parish as they graduate from high school. Each year before Christmas, the Knights make a number of Christmas related products available which sustain their scholarship program and they invite us to actively participate in announcing the presence of the Lord to our community. The Knights thank you for your support. Christmas "Oplatke", buttons & magnets will be available to purchase after weekend Masses.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Our parish families are invited to attend the Knights of Columbus **"Breakfast with Santa"**

on **Sunday, December 14, 2014**. There is a special family rate of \$25 for families that includes Mom and Dad with all children in the family who are 14 years of age and under. Adult rate is \$8, senior rate is \$7, child rate is \$6.

The Knights look forward to sharing some fabulous food and some real parish fellowship with you. So plan to join Santa and the Knights at the **Church Hall between 9:00 am and 11:30 am.**

EVERYONE IS INVITED!!!



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

John the Baptist lets us know today that he is not the light. Rather, he comes to testify to the light. John's purpose was to testify so that, "through him," the world would come to know that the Messiah was coming!

We are now beginning the third week of our Advent preparation. We come to realize that this season is one of Expectation: We remain awake because we don't know when the Lord will come. We come to realize that this is also a season of Proclamation: We prepare to welcome the Messiah who will soon be coming to us. Finally, we come to realize that this season is one of Celebration: We rejoice in the eternal and ever-present power of God in our lives.

Today the light of the Advent wreath shines ever brighter as we come closer to the time of the Lord. Today we light a third candle because the presence of the Lord shines more powerfully in our hearts and souls. Today we light the rose-colored candle. While the purple candles remind us that we must come to terms with our mistakes and sins that have "dulled our senses" to the presence of God in our everyday lives, the rose candle reminds us that even as we must continue to prepare, we do so with great joy and hope because the "light of the world" is coming---we await the new-born baby, Jesus Christ our Savior, at Christmas!

Just as the prophet proclaimed so long ago, we now proclaim that "the spirit of the Lord God is upon me." And like the Baptist, we are invited, even compelled in faith to proclaim the Good News: "To announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God."

Isaiah's words are words of faith, hope and love. They are words that proclaim the truth that God fulfills his promise to the Israelites of old in the gift of the divine child! During this special season of joyful expectation we also reflect on God's gift of his own Son to us. We prepare and we open our hearts in response to God's impending gift, just as the Baptist and his followers did. We prepare for the coming of the Christ-child by repenting our sinfulness and by spending time in meditation and prayer---praising God for his generous gift to us---that is, the Messiah and Savior who opens for us the way to eternal life!

These next two weeks will be busy with all the things of Christmas preparation: there is shopping, cooking, baking, wrapping, decorating, cleaning, visiting! Today we are reminded that there is one more thing---and it is so much more vital to a spiritually successful Christmas: preparing our soul and our heart to encounter the baby Jesus on Christmas morning.

Let us spend a little time each day in quiet prayer as we continue to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Before we can truly find the baby Jesus in our homes, in our community and even in our church, we must first find him in our hearts and souls!

Father Pat

